

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/600,089
Reply to Office Action dated September 27, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Claims 19 and 29 are amended.

Listing of Claims:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An optical information recording medium comprising a disk-shaped transparent substrate and n recording layers (where n is an integer of at least 2) for recording, reproducing or erasing information by irradiation of laser light, the recording layers being formed over the substrate, wherein

the recording layers comprise information tracks,

the information tracks comprise information recording regions and address regions interposed between the information recording regions, the information recording regions and the address regions being arranged along a tracking direction of the laser light,

prepit addresses for providing information on a position on the recording medium are formed on the address regions, and

in at least the first recording layer to the $(n-1)$ th recording layer from the transparent substrate side, no pair of adjacent leading edges of address regions, in the radial direction of the disk in each of the first recording layer to the $(n-1)$ th recording layer, are arranged so as to be aligned on a straight line passing through a center of the disk.

20. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 19, wherein

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the information tracks include groove tracks and land tracks that are formed alternately in the radial direction of the disk.

21. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 19, wherein steps for dividing the groove tracks from the land tracks are formed at both boundaries between the address region and two information recording regions adjacent to the address region in the radial direction of the disk.

22. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 19, wherein in the first recording layer to the (n-1)th recording layer from the transparent substrate side, a transmittance of the laser light is changed by recording information.

23. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 19, comprising a first recording layer and a second recording layer,

the first recording layer including a first information track for guiding the laser light from an inner disk circumference side to an outer disk circumference side by rotation of the disk in a predetermined direction, and

the second recording layer including a second information track for guiding the laser light from an outer disk circumference side to an inner disk circumference side by rotation of the disk in the predetermined direction.

24-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) An optical information recording medium comprising a disk-shaped transparent substrate and n recording layers (where n is an integer of at least 2) for recording, reproducing or erasing information by irradiation of laser light, the recording layers being formed over the substrate, wherein

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the recording layers comprise information tracks including groove tracks and land tracks that are formed alternately in a radial direction of the disk,

the information tracks comprise information recording regions and address regions interposed between the information recording regions, the information recording regions and the address regions being arranged along the tracking direction of the laser light,

prepit addresses for providing information on a position on the recording medium are formed on the address regions,

a pair of adjacent information tracks in the radial direction of the disk have a common address region on which a common prepit address is formed, and

in at least the first recording layer to the (n-1)th recording layer from the transparent substrate side, no pair of adjacent leading edges of common address regions, in the radial direction in each of the first recording layer to the (n-1)th recording layer, are arranged so as to be aligned on a straight line passing through the center of the disk.

30. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 29, wherein

the prepit addresses are formed so as to straddle a boundary of a pair of information tracks in the common address regions, and

steps for dividing the groove tracks from the land tracks are formed at both boundaries between the common address region and two information recording regions adjacent to the common address region in the radial direction of the disk.

31. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 29, wherein in the first recording layer to the (n-1)th recording layer from the transparent substrate side, a transmittance of the laser light is changed by recording information.

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32. (Original) The optical information recording medium of claim 29, comprising a first recording layer and a second recording layer,

the first recording layer including a first information track for guiding the laser light from an inner disk circumference side to an outer disk circumference side by rotation of the disk in a predetermined direction, and

the second recording layer including a second information track for guiding the laser light from an outer disk circumference side to an inner disk circumference side by rotation of the disk in the predetermined direction.

33-40. (Cancelled)